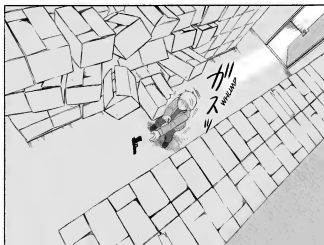


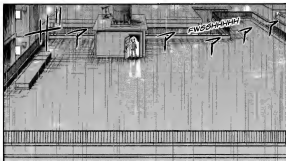


Chapter 6 After the Rain













WHO
WAS
SMILING
WHEN
SHE WAS
WITH AKI.

SHE'S A
NORMAL
LITTLE
GIRL



—SHE'S...
JUST A
CHILD...



I WONDER
WHY I
DIDN'T I
REALIZE I
WAS BEING
FOLLOWED
A LOT SOONER.



AKI'S A
FRIEND
OF
MINE.

AND
RITSU IS
MY WIFE.
I...



YOU WENT
TO THE
CAFE...AND
SPOKE TO
RITSU,
DIDN'T YOU?
SHE TOLD
ME ABOUT
IT...

.....SAN
...YOU
WERE
WITH
AKI,
RIGHT?



WHAT
IS SHE
SAYING?
I CAN'T
HEAR
HER.



"WELCOME
HOME,
TSUKASA."











WHY
ME?!



.....



— WHAT...
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE,
TSUKASA?



IF HIS
SHOT HAD
HIT ME,
I WOULD
HAVE DIED.

YOU
CAN'T SAY
"NEVER."



...THERE'S
NO WAY

THIS GUY
COULD KILL
YOU. HE
COULD
NEVER DO
THAT



BECAUSE
HE
ATTACKED
ME.



IF I
TURN MY
BACK
ON AN
ATTACKER,
I'LL BE
KILLED



...IF HE
ATTACKED
YOU, YOU
COULD HAVE
JUST RUN
AWAY...!

YOU
DIDN'T
HAVE
TO KILL
HIM...!

TH...
THIS IS
JUST...



EVEN
THOUGH

YOU SAID
YOU'RE MY
FRIEND?

WOULD
YOU HAVE
PREFERRED

THAT I
WERE THE
ONE WHO
DIED?









WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
DOING?!
LET GO
OF HIM!



OUT
OF THE
WAY. I'M
GONNA
CLEAN
THIS UP



WHAM



YOU'RE JUST
GONNA STUFF
HIM IN THAT
GARBAGE BAG
AND THROW HIM
AWAY IN A
TRASH BIN...?!

HE'S A
HUMAN
BEING!!



MUMPH.

NOOOOOH



NOH...

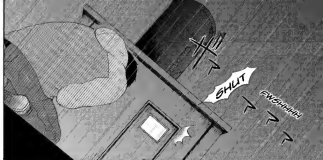


YOU DIDN'T
SAY A THING
WHEN I WAS
DEALING WITH
THAT WOMAN
BEFORE.
YOU JUST
SAT THERE,
SPACED OUT.



BUT
ONCE HE'S
DEAD, HE'S
NOTHING
BUT A
CORPSE.

HE MIGHT
HAVE BEEN
A HUMAN
BEING,



YOU'RE
BACK
AL-
READY?



BECAUSE
THAT PERSON
NAMED
TSUKASA
WAS
TALKING
US
AND I
KILLED
HIM.



WE
COULDN'T
GO.



I'D
TAKE A
SHOWER,
YOU.



THAT
WAS FAST,
YOU WENT
TO THE
MOVIES WITH
GOMONGI,
DIDN'T YOU?



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? THAT SONOH-
GI...

HE WAS SO
CONFIDENT
WHEN HE SAID
THAT GUY
WOULDN'T
COME BACK.



WHAT
ABOUT
SONOHGI?

SHI
SARI-
OUS-
LY??

HE
SAID HE
DO IT SO
HE MIGHT
BE MAD



I'LL REPORT TO
MAMONE TOMORROW.
I'M TIRED SO I'M
GONNA GO TO BED
GOOD NIGHT!



...I'M NOT
SURPRISED
SONOHGI
WOULD SAY
THAT, BUT...

MAMONE'S
BEEN
PRETTY
SOFT
LATELY.

THE SAME
GOES FOR
YOU TOO,
THOUGH.



(Open 24 hours)





...MAN,
IT'S
COLD...
THE AIR
CONDITION-
ING'S GET
WAY TOO
LOW



AH, THE
RAIN'S
SLOWED
TO A
DRIZZLE,
WOULDN'T
YOU SAY?

...AND I WAS
ABLE TO DO
IT ALL IN A
CALM
MANNER,
SOMEHOW.

—I THREW
AWAY MY
BLOODSTAINED
CLOTHES,
BOUGHT SOME
NEW ONES
AND A TOWEL,
ENTERED A
FAMILY
RESTAURANT,
AND MADE
AN ORDER.



HERE'S
YOUR
COFFEE.



I KNOW
WANNA
GET GOING
THEN?

THAT
THUNDER
EARLIER
WAS
REALLY
SOME-
THING,
HUN?



**"WHAT
AM I
GOING TO
DO IF HE
DIES...?"**

**"WHAT IF
TSUKASA
DOESN'T
COME
BACK?"**







**—I'M
LEAVING
THIS
PLACE.**





I CAN'T
DO THIS
ANYMORE.

IT
DOESN'T
REALLY
HAVE TO
BE HERE.

I CAN
LIVE
ANY-
WHERE.







